potentially harmful levels of metals such as lead, mercury and/or arsenic. According to the information available, a health warning has been issued by the Canadian Government.

As per the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), WTO members are allowed to take or adopt measures, including an embargo on imports, for the protection of life or health of human beings, animals and plants, provided such measures are based on scientific principles, are not discriminatory in content, and are not trade restrictive.

Health Canada, the Canadian Ministry of Health, has been approached for providing details of the methodology, analysis, basis of their inference etc. The matter was also taken up in the last meeting of the India-Canada Joint Commission held in India in September, 2005.

Government has also advised Ayurveda, Unani & Siddha medicine manufacturers to give a self- certification regarding the presence of heavy metals, within the permissible limits, in their export products.

Proposals of TERC

25. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) at its recent meeting held in October, 2005, decided to be more pro-active in increasing interaction with neighbours, especially the less developed economies;

(b) if so, the exports, imports and balance of trade with respect to each of these countries during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the targets, if any, fixed for the current year and the years to follow, with respect to each of these less developed economies, and the strategy and steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, in its recent meeting held in October, 2005 decided to enhance the level of economic engagements with Bangladesh, Myanmar and Pakistan.

(b) The export-import and trade balance with all the above three countries are as follows:-

In US$ Million

Year	Bangladesh			Myanmar			Pakistan		
	Import	Export	Trade Balance	Import	Export	Trade Balance	Import	Export	Trade Balance
2002-03	62.05	1176	1113.95	336.04	75.07	-260.97	44.85	206.16	161.31
2003-04	62.24	1646.08	1583.84	409.01	89.64	-319.37	57.74	286.55	228.81
2004-05	54.88	1586.18	1531.30	398.54	109.73	-288.81	95.33	505.44	410.11

(c) The proposed initiatives intend to address the market access issue of the goods from the above three countries. The initiatives are being discussed within the framework of South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) and Bay of Bengal Initiative of Multisectoral Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Grouping. Hence, fixing a target at this stage does not arise.

Sainik Schools

26. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the school-wise/State-wise details of Sainik Schools functioning at present in the various States of the country;

(b) whether Government proposes to set up any new Sainik School in the country;

(c) if so, the location-wise details thereof; and

(d) the details of criteria/guide lines fixed for admission in these schools alongwith the relaxation being provided to the various categories?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) 20 Sainik Schools are being run under the Ministry of Defence in the country. Their location, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Ministry of Defence has accorded 'in principle' approval to the setting up of a Sainik School each at Chhingchhip (Mizoram) and Punglwa (Nagaland).